



# Canadian Road Safety News Digest

A monthly compilation of national, provincial and local news stories on road safety

For the Period May 1-31, 2017

## **Ontario Passes Legislation to Keep Kids Safe on Local Roads - New Rules Help Municipalities Fight Speeding in School and Community Safety Zones**

May 30, 2017, Ontario Government (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

Ontario passed legislation today to protect the most vulnerable users of local roads, including children, seniors, pedestrians and cyclists.

The Safer School Zones Act gives municipalities more tools to fight speeding and dangerous driving in their communities, including...

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## **Ontario Making it Safer and Easier to Commute by Bike - Building More Bike Lanes and Other Cycling Infrastructure Across the Province**

May 29, 2017, Government of Ontario (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

Ontario is making it easier for commuters and families to get around by bike, with new funding to build a better and safer commuter cycling network across the province.

Minister of Transportation Steven Del Duca and Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport Eleanor McMahon were in Toronto today, Bike to Work Day, to launch the new Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling Program (OMCC).

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## Alberta's top court strikes down provincial impaired driving law

May 18, 2017, Global News (EDMONTON, ALBERTA)

Alberta's highest court has struck down the province's impaired driving legislation.

The law allowed the province to suspend the licence of suspected drunk drivers as soon as charges are laid and until their case was resolved in court.

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## 35% of Canadian teens riding with alcohol-impaired drivers: study

May 17, 2017, Global News (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

A new study has found one in three high school students has ridden with a driver who has been drinking, while nearly one in five has been in a car with a driver who has smoked marijuana.

"This research is drawn from the Canadian Student Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey, we surveyed about 25,000 kids from across Canada in all 10 provinces from grades nine to 12," said Leia Minaker, lead author on the paper and an assistant professor at the University of Waterloo.

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## Saskatchewan Victim of Impaired Driving Honoured in New Awareness Campaign

May 17, 2017, MarketWired.com (SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN)

On October 10, 2014, 25-year-old Danille Kerpan was killed in an impaired driving crash. Today, her parents Melanie and Allan Kerpan, together with RTL-Westcan Group of Companies and MADD Canada, are launching an awareness initiative to help take impaired drivers off the road before they cause crashes like the one that killed Danille.

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## arrive alive DRIVE SOBER campaign launch "timely" with Canada's National Road Safety Week and Victoria Day Weekend

May 16, 2017, Newswire.ca (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

arrive alive DRIVE SOBER® launched its 29th annual sober driving campaign at the arrive alive DRIVE SOBER offices at 1387 Bayview Avenue on Tuesday, May 16th from 10:30am until 1:00pm. After 29 years of messaging, arrive alive DRIVE SOBER is continuing to raise awareness in general terms and also specifically about: thanking sober drivers (CAA SCO supported), the penalties for impaired driving, drugged driving, and being impaired in the morning.

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## Mandatory Screening Provision in Bill C-46 Will Reduce Impaired Driving Crashes, Deaths and Injuries in Canada

May 12, 2017, MADD Canada (OAKVILLE, ONTARIO)

The mandatory screening provision in Bill C-46, the Government of Canada's recently proposed legislation to reform impaired driving laws, will significantly reduce impaired driving in Canada, saving hundreds of lives and preventing thousands of injuries each year, says MADD Canada.

"Simply put, mandatory screening is one of the single most effective ways Canada can reduce impaired driving," said Andrew Murie, MADD Canada Chief Executive Officer. "It has been in place in many other countries for years and has helped them to reduce overall road crashes and fatalities."

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## National Road Safety Week - Can You See Them?

May 11, 2017, Canada Safety Council (OTTAWA, ONTARIO)

They're everywhere around the country. Our roads see countless numbers of these people every day. All around Canada, they're a frequent topic of discussion for motorists and non-motorists alike. And, as a responsible driver, they make your commutes more challenging and needlessly dangerous than they need to be.

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## **New National Blueprint addresses needs of drivers with arthritis**

May 11, 2017, Newswire.ca (OTTAWA, ONTARIO)

... A new National Blueprint for Injury Prevention in Drivers with Arthritis (Blueprint) has been launched by the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT) to address the specific unmet needs of drivers with arthritis....

...The Blueprint is a collaboration, partly funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), and involving a panel of 15 experts and stakeholders that included representatives from the Arthritis Society, Société d'assurances automobile du Québec (SAAQ), the Active Living Coalition for Older Adults (ALCOA), the Council on Aging Ottawa, the Canadian Association of Road Safety Professionals (CARSP), and the Canada Safety Council.

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## **Liberals to table legal defence of crackdown on impaired driving**

May 10, 2017, CBC News (OTTAWA, ONTARIO)

The Liberal government will soon table a defense of its sweeping reforms on drug and alcohol-impaired driving in Canada. The charter statement will explain why Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould believes the legislation upholds Canadians' constitutional rights. It was scheduled to be tabled in the House of Commons Wednesday afternoon, but has been delayed due to a late change in the minister's schedule.

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## **Toronto needs hard infrastructure to produce real Vision Zero results: Matt Elliott**

May 8, 2017, Toronto Metro (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

I was cut off by an aggressive driver as I crossed the street to city hall last week...these incidents are too common on Toronto's deadly streets, where 43 pedestrians were killed in collisions last year. And it was a pretty fitting illustration of why the event that brought me to city hall - Toronto's Vision Zero road safety summit – was so important.

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## **New cycling safety law named in honour of Ellen Watters**

May 5, 2017, CTV News (FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK)

Ellen's Law has received final approval in New Brunswick.

It requires motorists to stay at least one metre away when passing cyclists. The law is named for promising young cyclist Ellen Watters, who was killed after being struck by a vehicle last year.

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## **Changes to Canada's drunk driving laws will give police sweeping powers, warn legal experts**

May 2, 2017, CBC News (CALGARY, ALBERTA)

If Canada's new impaired driving laws are passed police could show up on your doorstep – up to two hours after you arrive home – to demand a breath or saliva sample.

It's one of the things that most concerns Calgary defence lawyer Dale Fedorchuk, who says the proposed law "begs" for a constitutional challenge.

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## **Bike helmets can make roads more dangerous for cyclists, says Bike Regina**

May 2, 2017, Regina Leader-Post (REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN)

While the Saskatchewan Medical Association (SMA) is calling for the province to implement a mandatory bike helmet law, Bike Regina states that such a law could do more to reduce cyclist safety than help it.

"It is not something we support outright. We support helmets if people feel they need them," said Luke Nichols, vice-president of communications for Bike Regina. "Research shows that helmet laws don't increase safety. They can actually reduce the safety of cyclists."

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## Keep motorcyclists safe by sharing the road, says ICBC

May 1, 2017, ICBC (VANCOUVER, BC)

Sixty per cent of motorcycle crashes in B.C. involve other vehicles - that's why ICBC is urging everyone to share the roads safely with motorcycles and yield the right-of-way at intersections.

Today marks the start of Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month and, with warmer weather upon us, more riders will be hitting the road. It's important that both drivers and riders practice safe driving to keep our communities safer. Last year in B.C., 1,600 motorcyclists were injured in 2,600 crashes.

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## COPP Promotes 'Spotlight on Speed' Week In Manitoba

May 1, 2017, MyToba.ca (WINNIPEG, MANITOBA)

Approximately 30 Citizens on Patrol Program groups operating in communities throughout Manitoba will be out on their respective roadways, promoting 'Spotlight on Speed' Week which runs from May 1st to 6th.

During the week COPP volunteers will be operating speed reader boards ? provided by Manitoba Public Insurance ? to raise awareness of posted speed limits in their communities and as a reminder about the dangers of driving over the posted speed limit or too fast for road and weather conditions.

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## Canadian Events & Conferences in 2017

### **Canadian National Driver Rehabilitation Conference**

Charlottetown, PEI  
October 12-13, 2017

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### **Not by Accident / arrive alive DRIVE SOBER Joint Conference 2017 –**

London, Ontario  
October 23-24, 2017

[Learn more...](#)